

# **Marshfield Conservation Commission**

## **96TH Meeting**

**January 6<sup>th</sup> 2016**

Members Attending: Anne Miller, Annie Reed (Chair), Steve Fiske, Allen Banbury, and Bob Popp

Minutes: Notes from the December retreat were reviewed and approved.

Treasurers Report: Note there is still no Treasurer following Tony resignation

- Allen will assume the treasurers role to fill in for Tony who stepped down.
- According to Bobbi we have \$6,773 in the Conservation Fund which includes \$577 from the plant sale and \$122 donations & book sale from 2015.

Annual Report:

- Members reviewed and made comments
- Bob will send out to Bobbi before Friday

Plant Sale

- Anne will replace Allen as the Plant sale Coordinator with assistance from Annie.
- The sale will be coordinated by Plainfield this year, but will be our responsibility in 2017.
- We will meet with Plainfield CC soon to determine the species for the sale.
- Steve suggested that we plan to purchase extra materials to plant around the town rather than relying on surplus material that becomes available.

Natural Marshfield Series:

- Jan: Friends of the Winooski Thurs, the 28<sup>th</sup>
- Feb: Phenology session led by staff person from the Fairbanks Museum
- March: 9<sup>th</sup> Sue Morse will discuss climate change impact on northern animals. This presentation is co-sponsored by Plainfield and will once again be at Goddard
- March 17<sup>th</sup>: Art Gilman will discuss his new Flora of Vermont
- April: Vernal pools by Susan Sawyer (Four Winds) with a field trip TBD
- May: Bob will give a presentation on Vermont's rare flora

Beaver Update:

- Annie & Anne met with SB
- Everyone agreed that something needs to happen since Thompson Rd is being undermined
- Town highway crew dug a trench below the dam across the road also breached the dam a small amount.
- The intent is to install a bigger culvert but need to have beaver move their dam 1<sup>st</sup>. Will try to relocate the dam in the Spring, then replace culvert & install a baffle.
- Steve suggested that need to check with stream alteration program prior to replacing the culvert. Note: subsequent to the meeting Steve provided the contact to the Town Clerk.

#### Stranahan Town Forest:

- Apparently there is a disagreement among the members of the Stranahan Stewardship Com regarding the scale of the logging job to be bid on the STF
- The issue was discussed in detail at the Select Bd meeting on Jan 5<sup>th</sup>
- It was resolved that the SB will attend the SSC meeting to be held on Jan 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.
- Bob and Annie will plan to attend to represent the MCC.

#### Long Term Planning:

- Discussion on how best to implement our long term plan
- Suggestion not to take on too much immediately since will likely be helping with STF management plan
- Individual projects were discussed, including
- Invasives: could begin work on identifying & mapping invasive along town roads this summer.
- Bat Houses: Allen will investigate getting plans and cost of materials.
- Stream sampling: Steve will begin to organize the sampling regime.
- Wildlife corridors: Anne will check with Staying Connected re camera equipment or grants for same
- Plantings at Old Schoolhouse: Steve will look into developing a planting design.

#### New Business:

- Need new Green Up Coordinator. Annie spoke with Tony about a replacement. **Allen** will follow up with Tony's recommendation
- Upper Winooski Headwaters Community Partnership will meet on Jan 25<sup>th</sup> @ 6 at OSHC to discuss projects for next year. Projects will involve the 3 towns: Plnflld, Marshfld & Cabot.

Submitted by : Bob Popp

Submitted on: 9 January 2016

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Accepted on: \_\_\_\_\_